

DEC 21 2004

32692

Customer Number

PATENT  
Docket No.: 54402US028

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MATTHEW T. SCHOLZ, MARGIE A.  
CRONE, NICHOLAS R. BAUMANN and  
LEON LEVITTSerial No.: 09/982,741  
Filed: October 17, 2001For: FRICTION CONTROL ARTICLES  
FOR HEALTHCARE  
APPLICATIONS

Group Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: B. Egan

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The deadline for filing a response to the Office Action mailed July 21, 2004 originally required a reply by October 21, 2004.

Applicants desire additional time to respond to the Office Action, and therefore request that the deadline for reply to the Office Action be extended one month from October 21, 2004 until December 21, 2004 under the provisions of Rule 136(a). Authorization is hereby provided to charge any fee required in connection with this paper, including the \$450.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(2) for consideration of this extension to Account No. 13-3723. A duplicate copy of this sheet is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy M. Lambert*  
Nancy M. Lambert  
Registration No. 44,856  
Attorney for Applicants

NML:jlh/54402US028 Extension of Time  
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
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